

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FEB-
RUARY 1, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 409 which honors the contributions of Catholic schools.

As the delegate from Guam, it gives me great pleasure to speak in support of this resolution. Guam has a long and rich history of Catholicism since the arrival of Spanish missionaries in 1668. There are ten Catholic schools in Guam, serving thousands of families. In fact, three of my five children have attended Catholic schools on Guam. Moreover, nearly half of my staff are graduates of the Catholic school system.

Catholic schools provide a valuable education to more than 2.5 million of our nation's student population. Catholic schools often provide a broad value-added, education and shape the life long development of moral, intellectual, physical and social values in its students.

Over the years, different kinds of Catholic education has been provided in Guam, from the traditional "eskuelan pale" (Catechism classes, which taught basic literacy in Guam for 275 years) to today's modern facilities briefing high quality, challenging education to Guam's youth. Today, approximately 4,000 of Guam's children attend Catholic schools.

We have had many religious orders and countless lay teachers provide educational guidance and opportunities since the end of World War II when a formal Catholic school system was established. The Sisters of Mercy, School Sisters of Notre Dame, Dominicans, Franciscans, Mercedarians, the Jesuits and the Missionary of Berriz have all served to educate Guam's Catholic school children. There are currently ten Catholic schools in Guam, including: Notre Dame High School,

Academy of Our Lady of Guam, Father Duenas Memorial School, Bishop Baumgartner Memorial School, Mount Carmel School, Saint Anthony School, Saint Francis School, San Vicente School, Santa Barbara School, and Dominican School.

I would like to thank my colleague, Mr. Schaffer, for his leadership in introducing this resolution and I would like to commend all Catholic schools, students, parents, teachers, administrators and Catholic Schools Superintendent Sr. Jean Ann Crisostomo in Guam and all Catholic schools throughout the nation. Furthermore, I would like to extend my congratulations to the Archbishop Antonio Apuron and Archdiocese of Hagatna for leadership in providing excellence in education and the moral well-being of the children in Guam.

I strongly urge your support of House Resolution 409.

HONORING JOSEPH "JERRY"
PATCHAN UPON HIS RETIRE-
MENT AS DIRECTOR OF THE EX-
ECUTIVE OFFICE FOR U.S.
TRUSTEES

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 7, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my distinguished colleague, JERROLD NADLER, the ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law of the Committee on the Judiciary, in expressing our many good wishes on the occasion of Joseph "Jerry" Patchan's retirement on February 11, 2000 as director of the Executive Office for U.S. Trustees.

Jerry Patchan's 45 years of service in the public and private sectors is truly commendable. Highlights of his distinguished career include his service as an officer in the U.S. Navy during the Second World War. During that service, he participated in the D-day invasion at Normandy and saw action in the Pacific theater. In 1969, he was appointed as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern Dis-

trict of Ohio and served on the bench for more than 6 years. Thereafter, he served on the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules of the Judicial Conference of the United States from 1978 to 1991. Later, Jerry became deputy general counsel of the Resolution Trust Corporation, where he helped resolve complex matters involving hundreds of millions of dollars arising out of our Nation's savings and loan crisis.

In 1994, Jerry assumed the leadership of the Executive Office for U.S. Trustees, a component of the Justice Department that supervises the administration of bankruptcy cases nationwide. As a result of his guidance and leadership, the U.S. Trustee Program has revitalized its mission and has undertaken innovative solutions to the many challenges presented by administering literally millions of bankruptcy cases. He has shared his wise counsel on bankruptcy matters with our subcommittee on numerous occasions, for which we are most appreciative.

In addition to his many work-related responsibilities, Jerry taught bankruptcy law in Ohio, was a member of the faculty of the National Bankruptcy Seminar at the Federal Judicial Center, and has frequently lectured at bankruptcy law seminars around the country. He authored the Practice Comments to Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure from 1973 to 1991 and published numerous articles on bankruptcy law. Most recently, he was named one of the 50 most influential people in credit by Credit Today, an industry newsletter.

Jerry is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a member of the Ohio and the District of Columbia Bar Associations. He has chaired the Cleveland Bar Association's Bankruptcy and Commercial Law section from 1984 through 1986. He also is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the American Judicature Society, and the American Bankruptcy Institute.

We take this opportunity to acknowledge Jerry Patchan's lifelong contributions as a public servant, an attorney, trustee, jurist academic and writer. We ask our colleagues to do the same.